

HONORS President Arroyo troops the line during arrival honors on Tuesday at a Brasilia military air base. President Juscelino Kubitschek International Airport.

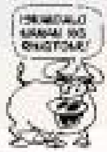
PHILIPPINE DAILY
INQUIRER
BALANCED NEWS, FEARLESS VIEWS

Thursday, June 25, 2009 ** 6 sections / Vol. 24 / No. 197 P18

Wham! JPE billed P180 for 'Careless' download

By Christine O. Avendaño

SENATE PRESIDENT Juan Ponce Enrile claims he doesn't know the song "Careless Whisper" by Wham! and is



WHAM! P8 A13

'Stop suspending classes'

Atonement: Missing trader finds God, builds boat

By Julie S. Alipala
Chief of correspondents, Inquirer Mindanao

R.T. LIM, ZAMBOANGA SIBUGAY—WHEN Narciso Sardual suddenly disappeared from public view in Zamboanga City 15 years ago, little did his relatives and close friends know that the once wealthy businessman had retreated to this neighboring seaside town—and was trying to build an ark.

"This boat is my devotion to God. I am building this for almost seven years now and I am

ATONEMENT A6



NOAH'S ARK REVISITED He's no Noah but Narciso "Jack" Sardual is building a 113-foot-long boat single-handedly in Barangay Mabuhay, Roseller T. Lim, Zamboanga Sibugay, to tide him over as the world ends.

DepEd: New guidelines focus on patient care

By Philip C. Tubeza

WARNING THAT THE PANIC over the Influenza A(H1N1) virus was already affecting the economy, Education Secretary Jesli Lapus yesterday said schools should no longer suspend classes if they get a second confirmed case of the virus.

"It's useless (suspending classes for entire schools). This is just like sore eyes (sorethroat)," Lapus said.

He said suspending classes in schools where there was already a "low-level" outbreak of swine flu would only worsen an economy already teetering on recession.

"We are coming out with new school guidelines today or tomorrow which shifts the focus from containment to mitigation, because even if you suspend classes, would that stop the spread of the virus?" Lapus said.

He said students would just go to malls and movie houses if classes were suspended (and spread the disease).

"If there's already a community

STOP A4

'Feria' kills 5, triggers floods, slides, tornadoes

TYPHOON 'FERIA'



By Inquirer Southern Luzon and Inquirer Visayas

STORM "FERIA" PLOWED THROUGH the Visayas and southern Luzon yesterday, killing at least five people and bringing tornadoes, floods, landslides and power cuts across small islands.

A tornado caught a fishing boat docked for safety in a cove of the island town of Ferrol in Quezon shortly after midnight on Tuesday. Three of the crew men drowned, while their captain died at the hospital from serious injuries.

Another twister hit four fishing villages of Can-avid town in Eastern Samar at about 2 p.m. on Tuesday, damaging 26 houses.

The Philippine National Police has placed its units on alert nationwide in anticipation of disaster response, rescue and rehabilitation work.

Oriental Mindoro Gov. Arnan C. Panaligan asked the provincial board to declare a state of calamity.

Weathermen plotted Feria (inter-

FERIA A8, A9, A10

Melo on Senate probe: Sour-graping losers

By Christian V. Esguerra and Kristine L. Alave

SOUR GRAPING.

That's how the chair of the Commission on Elections, Jose Melo, described the Senate probe into the winning bidder to automate the 2010 elections.

Melo yesterday raised the possibility that the losing bidders were goading lawmakers to question the Smartmatic-Total Information Management Corp. contract, saying they were "sour graping."

He identified the companies as Avante International, AMA Group of Companies and Sequoia Voting Systems.

"These people are giving some in-

MELO A4

House A(H1N1) cases rise to 3; Sona in peril

By Leila B. Salaverria, Christian V. Esguerra and Dona Pazzibugan

THE NUMBER OF HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES employees found positive for the Influenza A(H1N1) virus rose yesterday to three, a day after a female House staff member was buried, according to the House Medical and Dental Service.

The 49-year-old woman was the country's first fatality related to the

HOUSE A4

Cory back in hospital–Noynoy

FORMER PRESIDENT CORAZON Aquino, who is afflicted with colon cancer, has not been eating well and is back in hospital.

Sen. Benigno "Noynoy" Aquino III said his mother's "poor appetite" had prompted her doctors to recommend hospital confinement in order to "address her nutrition." He said the family had "seconded" her doctors' advice.

The senator said his mother would be fed intravenously.

"We are hoping her appetite improves because her body needs nutrients for her treatments," he said yesterday, adding that his mother's hospital confinement was expected to last from five days to a week.

The 76-year-old former Pres-

CORY A4



OUTSTANDING On the 438th founding of Manila, the city honors its outstanding Manilans on Wednesday, "Araw ng Maynila." The honorees are, from left representing Jaime Zobel de Ayala, Vicky Garchitorena; Sen. Manny Villar, Mariel Prieto, PDI chair Gina Lopez, environmentalist, ABS-CBN Foundation; Henry Sy of the SM group of companies; Dr. Remedios Quirino; broadcaster Mike Enriquez of GMA 7, representing his mother, ex-President Cory Aquino, Sen. Noynoy Aquino. At the back are Manila Mayor Alfredo Lim and Jun Lozada, NBN-ZTE whistle-blower.

Gov't eases hunt for Vagni captors; fresh talks ongoing

By Tarra Quismundo and Kristine L. Alave

AFTER WEEKS OF FIERCE fighting, the government has eased up on its offensive against the bandits still holding hostage

GOV'T A4

Can Erap run again? It's SC's call, says DILG chief

By Gil C. Cabacungan Jr. and Cathy C. Yamsuan

ONLY THE SUPREME COURT can resolve the question of whether Joseph Estrada can again seek the presidency in 2010, Interior Secretary Ronaldo Puno said on Tuesday.

Puno, who was instrumental in President Macapagal-Arroyo's pardon of the ex-President and convicted plunderer, told Inquirer editors and reporters over dinner that argu-

CAN ERAP A11

Second FRONTPAGE

MEGALOTTO 6/45

2 11 26 35 38 39

P18,900,671.40

Graft raps filed over noodles

By Edson C. Tandoc Jr.

THE COMPLAINANT WHOSE allegations aborted the Department of Education's P427-million school feeding program yesterday filed graft charges against Education Secretary Jesli Lapus and six other officials.



JESLI LAPUS

Nothing new

No BFAD license

Confusing

3 Army officers linked to Jonas case promoted

By Jocelyn R. Uy

Pirates to free 3 RP sailors soon

MOGADISHU, SOMALIA—PIRATE sources said on Tuesday they were on the verge of releasing a Belgian dredging vessel and its 10-man crew captured in mid-April.

Fuel shortage

Indon terror suspect said to be in Mindanao

AN INDONESIAN RADICAL BLAMED FOR ordering the beheading of three people in his country in 2007 may be hiding in Mindanao, an Indonesian police official said.

Bloody attacks

Funding cutoff



MANY STALLS are still closed at the town public market for fear of more violence.

Police: Cavite shootout no Christian-Muslim rift

Traffic altercation

Firearms control



THE GATHERING STORM

DOH tells House why it kept swine flu death secret

'Stop suspending classes,' DepEd chief says new guidelines to be issued

House A(H1N1) cases rise to 3, GMA to go on quarantine; Sona in peril



Cory back in hospital, says son Noynoy

AFP says it won't seek custody of Gadian but will protect her

By Gil Yap



GADIAN

No formal complaint



THE DAILY GOSPEL

Gov't eases hunt for Abus

From page A1

No news

Hearsay

All quiet

Amid revamp talk, GMA son says he's '1,000 percent' behind Nograles

By Gil C. Cabacungan Jr.

THE PRESIDENT'S ELDEST SON YESTERDAY declared his "1,000 percent" support for Speaker Prospero Nograles amid lingering talk of an imminent leadership change in the Lower House.

A mother's plans

Lagdameo for governor

Atonement: Missing trader finds God, builds boat

From page A1



PREPARING FOR THE WORST Sanbad retreated to a remote village in R.T. Lim, Zamboanga Sibugay, and has been building with his bare hands a one-story high boat the past seven years now.

Spending sprees

Close friend

A few hand tools

Imparting a lesson

Melo on Senate probe: Sour-graping

From page A1

Formal complaint urged

Aboitiz firm not an issue

Malacañang unfazed

Signing tomorrow

Undercapitalized

Bankers group airs warning vs ATM scammers

Cover the screen

POEA, BI join hands vs trafficking, illegal recruitment

Corrections





PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER

OPINION

Killing *Tatay*

EDITORIAL

PRIVATE FIRST CLASS APOLONIO PACIOLES WAS home from the battlefield. He had managed to go on leave—from the Army's 64th Infantry Battalion, based currently somewhere in Mindanao—just in time for Father's Day. He returned to his house in Quezon City on Saturday, and he was up early the following day. At about 6 a.m. he asked his five-year-old son to do something for him: fetch his service firearm for him.

[illegible]



Cyber whisper

VIEWPOINT

Juan L. Mercado

[illegible]

In retrospect

THERE'S THE RUB

Conrado de Quiros

[illegible]

Randy David to challenge GMA in Pampanga if...

Political Tidbits

Belinda Olivares-Cunanan



'Concubine'

Young Blood

Carrie

My text friend, Bro. Ceci

Human Face

Ma. Ceres P. Doyo



There is no debate

The Long View

Manuel L. Quezon III



Notice to Youngblood contributors:

They Said

Honesty

UN Parliamentary Assembly, anyone?

LETTERS

Mortar quality critical in restoration of heritage buildings

Internet blocking and counter-blocking

Cassava's potential uses

2010 start of break from 'trapo' grip

Across the NATION
Assistant Editor Tony Bergonia

₱1B in smuggled cars seized in Davao

GENERAL SANTOS CITY—A GOVERNMENT CAMpaign to stop the smuggling of cars has shifted to Mindanao following the seizure last week of at least P1 billion worth of used vehicles that authorities said were brought into the country without taxes.

[illegible]

Fleeing Sayyaf men handed over teachers to MILF—Puno

ZAMBOANGA CITY—MORO Islamic Liberation Front (MILF) rebels [illegible]



AFP CHIEF of Staff Gen. Victor Ibrado [illegible]

5 troops wounded in clash after GMA order vs NPAs

TACLOBAN CITY— [illegible]



A SLIPPER bears the reminders of a grenade explosion in Maasim, Sarangani, [illegible]

Worker killed as Moro rebs attack road project

COTABATO CITY— [illegible]

SBMA asks firm to suspend Korean foreman

CITY OF SAN FERNANDO— [illegible]

Frustrated murder

[illegible]

INQUIRER Southern Luzon

Kids learn 'butanding' care through reading

By Jonas Cabiles Soltes
Donsol, Sorsogon

IN THE QUAINT TOWN OF DONSOL IN SORSOGON, SCHOOLchildren are being taught to become stewards of Mother Earth and protectors of the "butanding" (whale sharks) that have made their place internationally known—through reading.

On June 19, a month-long reading program for fourth graders was launched in the two school districts of Donsol under the sponsorship of two foundations, Cemex Philippines and ... Cemex is a Mexican company that produces cement products.

Sergio M. Menendez, president and chief executive officer of Cemex Strategic Philippines Inc., said the reading program would complement the "Adopt-A-Species" program that the company's foundation also started in Donsol.

The earlier program aims to protect and avoid the extinction of the whale shark and the degradation of its habitats.



SERGIO M. Menendez, president and CEO of Cemex Strategic Philippines Inc., reads the book "Bacon Monster" to elementary pupils of Donsol town in Sorsogon.

Menendez said he hoped the reading program would develop the love and habit of reading while integrating the value of environmental protection and stewardship among the schoolchildren.

"Soon, they (schoolchildren) would be the protectors of the town's treasure—the butanding—so it would be good that they start learning how to take care of the whale shark by this time," he said.

Under the program, schoolchildren will be allowed to read storybooks about subjects related to environmental protection, including proper waste disposal and habitat preservation.

[illegible]

> 'Soon, they would be the protectors of the town's treasure—the whale sharks'

Learning process

[illegible]

Eager readers

[illegible]

Developing the habit

[illegible]

An institute for good governance

By Juan Escandor Jr.
Naga City

HAVING EARNED ACCOLADES AND RECOGNITION for good governance practices from national and international agencies since 1990, the Naga City government has embarked on promoting its mission in Bicol with the launching of an institute on June 20.

[illegible]



ROBREDO

Replicating practices

[illegible]

Islands of good governance

[illegible]

Republic of the Philippines
DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

DEPARTMENT CIRCULAR NO. DC2009-06-0009

CREATION OF STEERING COMMITTEE TO ENSURE THE SECURITY OF ELECTRIC POWER SUPPLY IN THE VISAYAS GRID

[illegible]

ANGELO T. REYES
Secretary

'Feria' kills 5, triggers floods, slides, tornadoes



Air, sea trips canceled

Seconds in the air

Other casualties

Power cuts

Classes suspended

PNP to rescue

Storm signals

Wham! JPE billed ₱180 for 'Careless' download


ENRILE

Collusion suspected

Eavesdropping

Telecom industry deregulated

Fire him!

Erap calls on Philconsa to stop 'savage assault' on Charter

By Fe Zamora

Tell them to stop

Can Erap run again? It's SC's call, says DILG chief

Erap to slide down

Good for another try

No longer qualified

No way for GMA

Once immunity is lost ...

Justice Atienza scores ace

SPORTS

San Miguel nears 'Fiesta' finals

Gin Kings force 2-2 tie



What a game; what an Open

HEART, SOUL, SPORTS

Tommy Manotoc

What's behind GTK's beastly depression?

BARE EYE

Recah Trinidad

85th NCAA basketball: Lions, Bombers, Stags favored







Holyfield believes Pacman's the best

By Roy Luarca

[illegible]

RP Davis Cuppers pin hopes on clay

By Marc Anthony Reyes

[illegible]



ANDY Murray jubilates after winning a point against Robert Kendrick during their first-round match at Wimbledon.

Bye, Marat

Safin leaves Wimbledon; Murray fans British hopes

[illegible]

SBP slams Fiba for summons

By Jose Navarro

[illegible]

Bata puts status on the line vs Alcano

[illegible]



MAY THE BEST MAN WIN Senator Manny B. Villar raises the hands of Efren "Bata" Reyes and Ronnie Alcano and wishes them good luck for their much-anticipated duel in the Challenge of the Legend: The Maestro versus The Volcano that fires off today at the Skydome of SM North Edsa in Quezon City.

[illegible]


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MEGAWORLD

Aplus Metro

Editor: Abelardo S. Ulanday

DID YOU KNOW

JONES Bridge in Manila was named after William Jones, author of the Jones Law of 1916 or the Philippine Autonomy Act, in which the United States declared its intention to withdraw control of the Philippines after a stable government has been set up.



INQUIRER Chair Ma. Marixi R. Prieto receives her award as one of the Outstanding Manilans from Mayor Alfredo Lim at rites celebrating Manila's 438th foundation day Wednesday.

PDI chair, 10 others conferred awards as outstanding Manilans

By Tina G. Santos

FOR HER PRINT MEDIA ADVOCACY, Inquirer board chair Marixi Rufino-Prieto was named one of this year's Outstanding Manilans during the 438th Araw ng Maynila celebration yesterday.

Apart from advocating excellence in journalism, Prieto was also cited for her philanthropic support for various foundations, including Gawad Kalinga, Habitat for Humanity, LBP Foundation, Lay Education on Heart Diseases, the Philippine Daily Inquirer's Newsboy Foundation and One for Unity, Peace and Progress Foundation Inc., among others.

The Outstanding Manilan Award is given in recognition of men and women who were born, lived or studied in the city and whose achievements in their chosen profession or vocation have contributed to the city's development and promotion.

Asked what she is most proud of as a Manilan, Prieto said the city has taught her a lot, particularly about business.

She added that her family, the Rufinos, used to own a theater on Avenida Rizal, the city's entertainment capital during the prewar and postwar years.

In his speech, Supreme Court Justice Reynato Puno, the keynote speaker during the awarding rites held at the historic Manila Hotel, referred to Prieto as a "backbone" of the core group of his Moral Force Movement, his personal advocacy against corruption.

Prieto was one of the eight "highly respected individuals" chosen by Puno to make up the movement's core group and draw up a criteria which will help voters select the leaders they should vote for in 2010.

The other awardees included former President Corazon Aquino who was cited for civic leadership and global diplomacy. Her son, Sen. Benigno "Noynoy" Aquino III, accepted the medal in her behalf.

"Now weakened by disease, she continues to be our strength, an oasis of morality, a beacon of hope that goodness always succeeds," Puno said of the former president.

Sen. Manuel Villar, former Senate president, was named an Outstanding Manilan for public service.

Henry Sy Sr., Asia's biggest shopping mall operator, was recognized for his role in business development. He was also lauded for providing jobs and livelihood to thousands of Filipinos.

The Manila government also recognized Regina "Gina" Lopez for her environmental advocacy, particularly her creative and indefatigable efforts to clean the Pasig River.

The other awardees were Eugenio Lopez III for his creative and dynamic role in the fields of

SEE PRIETO, A18

Muntinlupa bars smokers from all public places

By Nina Catherine Calleja

BAD NEWS FOR MUNTINLUPA CITY RESIDENTS who are hooked on nicotine.

Beginning this week, members of a task force created by the city government will be going around Muntinlupa to apprehend people who smoke in public places.

According to the city public information office, the task force will help ensure that all public places in Muntinlupa, including city hall, plazas, roads and churches, will be smoke-free from now on.

On Tuesday Mayor Aldrin San Pedro issued Executive Order 19 authorizing the smoke-free task force to implement, monitor and enforce Ordinance No. 09-045 which strictly prohibits smoking in public places all over the city.

"The group will be responsible for apprehending violators and holding educational campaigns against smoking," San Pedro said in a statement.

He added that the creation of the task force is based on the Tobacco Regulation Act of 2003 or Republic Act 9211 prohibiting smoking in certain public places, whether enclosed or outdoors, like centers of youth activities, public facilities and public utility vehicles.

Under the ordinance, first-time violators face a fine of P500 or one to two days in prison while second-time offenders will be fined P800 or spend three to five days in detention. Third-time violators, on the other hand, will be fined P1,000 or be jailed for a week.

Members of the task group include representatives from the city police, Traffic Management Bureau and Public Order and Safety Office, public information office, environment department and the city health office.

San Pedro stressed that there is no safe level of exposure to secondhand smoke.

He cited recent studies which showed that only completely smoke-free public places and workplaces can protect people from exposure to secondhand smoke because ventilation and air filtration systems do not always ensure 100 percent protection.

Peek-a-boo footbridge in U-Belt area irks lawyer

By Allison W. Lopez

PEEK-A-BOO!

A public-rights lawyer has criticized the Metropolitan Manila Development Authority (MMDA) for building a footbridge in the University Belt area that he claimed "exposed" instead of protected female students, especially those wearing skirts.

In a June 22 letter to MMDA Chair Bayani Fernando, lawyer Ernesto Francisco Jr. complained that the design of the steel-type footbridge on Legarda Street corner C.M. Recto Avenue violated the right to privacy and even contributed to the "indignity and humiliation" of its female users.

"This is because the steel footbridge is designed in such a way that there are open and uncovered spaces between the steps of the staircases and also, along the sides of the staircases and main bridge. These open and uncovered spaces expose the privacy of female pedestrians, mostly students and employees in uniforms, using the footbridge," he said in a three-page letter.

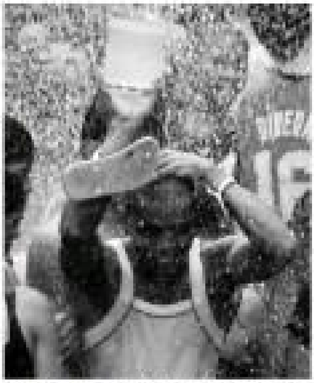
Traffic, safety reasons

The footbridge, which was opened on June 13 by the MMDA, was aimed at easing traffic in the area and ensuring the safety of pedestrians, mostly students of schools in the area.

However, Francisco cautioned that when he passed by the structure last week, he

SEE PEEK-A-BOO, A18

Teenage boy found dead in condo; foul play eyed



San Juan celebrates water fest

Peek-a-boo footbridge irks lawyer

Legal action

Makati City gov't to use emergency fund to buy swine flu medicine for residents



CELEBRATING MANILA DAY

Pateros to push for reclamation of disputed barangays in Fort Boni

Pasig marks 436th foundation day on July 2

PDI chair, 10 others cited...

Frame-ups continue despite strict law

ON TARGET





SUMMER SOLSTICE

US firm makes first batch of vaccine against swine flu

AFP

Paraguay chief accused of rape

AFP

The WORLD

Khamenei: No compromise with opposition

CAIRO, EGYPT—IRAN'S SUPREME LEADER ON Wednesday said that the government would not give in to pressure over the disputed presidential election, effectively closing the door to compromise with the opposition.

Obama takes harder line on Tehran's crackdown



Kim Jong-il appoints son head of spy agency

Missile death toll at 55 in Pakistan

WorldBriefs

US reject 40-percent cut in emissions

WWIII? Brits release secret planning manual

Nokor cargo ship could test UN sanctions

Berlusconi denies ever paying women for sex



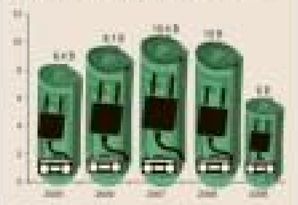
IN THIS ISSUE

Editor: Raul O. Marcelo • Assistant Editor: Corrie S. Martinez

BUSINESS

INQUIRER MONITOR

Electronic exports for first 4 months of '09 lowest in 5 years (in US dollars, Jan to Apr 2005-2009)



CURRENCIES



STOCK MARKET

Shares close 1.93% higher



Gov't 5-mo borrowings up 30%

Loans cover widening budget gap

GOVERNMENT BORROWINGS SURGED BY 29.7 PERCENT IN THE first five months of the year from a year ago as the budget gap widened by more than five times during the period.

GSIS hobbled by ₱30-B gov't arrears

High-end property buyers back, says Ayala Premier exec

THE AYALA GROUP HAS TURNED MORE upbeat on the high-end property market given a recent resurgence in demand from discerning buyers, encouraging the rollout of upscale projects for the rest of this year.

Galoc viability confirmed

Oil reserves good for long-term production

[illegible]

Abuse your coconut

BREAKTIME

Conrado R. Banal III

[illegible]

Monte Oro drops Cagayan gas deal

[illegible]

Philippine Stock Exchange

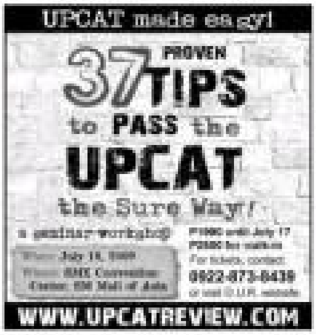
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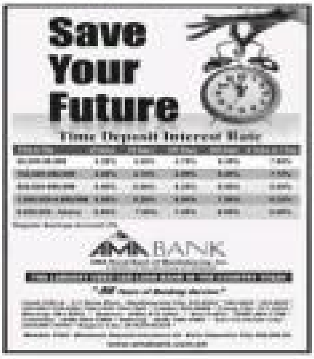
Crossrates

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Smart joins 'unlimited calls' fray as market heats up

Ayala Corp. named 'best managed firm'







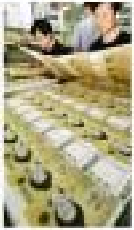
CDO inaugurates new Batangas plant on June 26

INVITATION TO APPLY FOR ELIGIBILITY AND TO BID

INVITATION TO APPLY FOR ELIGIBILITY AND TO BID

PNOC-EC plans to put up P1-B coal-fired power plant

Eastwood City Cyberpark posts 41% export revenue growth



Global response to crisis underway

UN plans to play bigger role in promoting recovery

Asians still spending, says survey

Anchor Land to launch 55-story building

Asian stocks recover ahead of Fed's take on fate of the US economy

Smart joins ...

High-end property buyers back ...

Business

Franchising sector surviving, thriving

By Abigail L. Ho

RP has enough rice in stock, NFA says

Cyber City gets BOI incentives

By Abigail L. Ho

LIFESTYLE Food

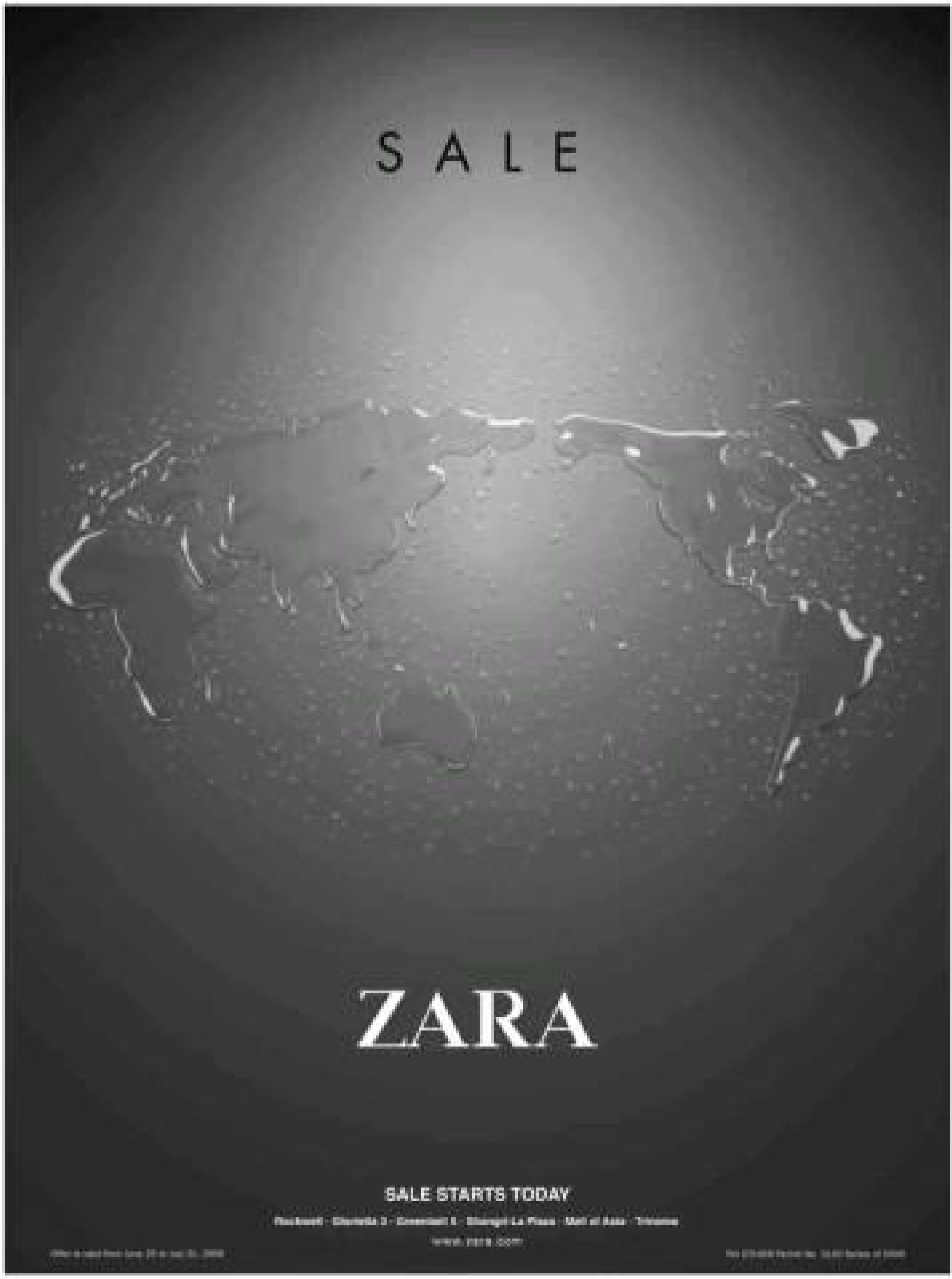
Editor: Thelma Sioson San Juan



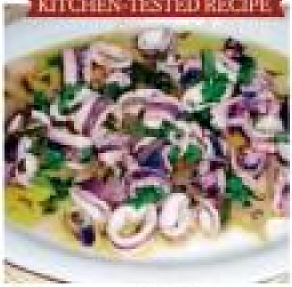


Doña Maria is perfect for 'bagoong' rice, sticky rice balls with mangoes

STORY ON PAGE C3



PDI LIFESTYLE KITCHEN-TESTED RECIPE



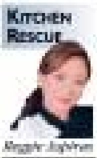
Calamari in lemon and olive oil sauce



Calamari in Lemon and Olive Oil Sauce

Tips

Doña Maria is perfect for 'bagoong' rice, sticky rice balls with mango



Bagoong Rice

Mongolian-style Fried Rice



HENRY Lim of St. Agritech, growers of Japonica and Miponica rice



STICKY rice balls with mangoes

Sticky Rice Balls with Mango



BAGOONG rice

Secondhand equipment

Amateur chefs whip up low-sodium but creative, tasty dishes

Great dishes by a physician, an NBI agent and a Psych grad dominate Novartis' Low-Salt Recipe Contest



PASTA Pilipino



LUMPIANG Hubad





PINAKSIW na Boneless Bangus Belly with a Twist

'Pinaksiw' with a twist

Pinaksiw na Boneless Bangus Belly with a Twist

Pasta Pilipino

Lumpiang Hubad

Food, glorious food—in nooks and crannies of Chinatown

Its best culinary treasures are laid out on the streets



Open secret

Enriching the mind



Riverine food and the need to revive the Pasig



COUNTRY COOKING

Micky Fenix

AT PESCADORES, a restaurant in Malabon, I told one of the owners, Mencho Lucas, that I used to eat at Fish Fun as a child. I asked him where it could be found today. He looked at me and said the place was right where we were. But I asked, where are the fishponds?

I remembered walking through wooden planks above those ponds and even trying to catch some tilapia with the fishing rods provided by the establishment. Those scenes are now just part of a photo gallery on the walls of the restaurant and in my family scrapbook.

It was easy to see why the ponds are gone. In front of Pescadores was a view of the squatter area, rows of shanties and, yes, [illegible]. Beside the houses were what looked like ponds but I wouldn't say that those had living fish, shrimps and crabs that were the specialties of the old Fish Fun.

Lucas' father, Jesus, pointed to the ponds seen only in pictures and to the river, where he would lower his [illegible] (fish net) and then catch different freshwater fish. The ponds do appear during the rains only because of the flooding.

Unlike Pescadores where the river no longer exists, Malabon still has a river but it needs rehabilitation. The water is black opaque in color with garbage floating on top.

The fish life of [illegible], like Malabon, must have only what is called 'janitor' fish, the kind that eats garbage and other fish.

In Malolos, Bulacan, the afternoon market scene consists of where the buyers can get freshwater fish like [illegible] and ayungin. These are getting rarer now and, thus, more expensive. At one restaurant, we had the [illegible] (climbing perch), which surprised our Bulacan host because it hadn't been available for a long time.

Contrast all these to the drive to [illegible] province. It has been such a long time since I last saw clean and clear flowing water, the kind you'd want to bathe in, maybe even drink. At lunch we had what they called [illegible]. They were fat and very red. They raised them, which is the real test of how safe the food is.

Rehabilitation

But it is the rehabilitation of the Pasig River which concerns Metro Manila residents because it passes through several of the cities—Quezon City, Mandaluyong, Taguig, Makati, Manila, Marikina, Pasig and San Juan.

Many projects have been launched to save the Pasig but none have [illegible] and [illegible]. One project I have seen is Unilever's in Manila. Since its plant is beside a Pasig tributary, it has seen to catch the garbage that the current brings. The garbage is retrieved and then disposed of properly.



THE RARE [illegible] or climbing perch caught in the Malolos, Bulacan river

The latest effort is Kapit Bisig Para Sa Ilog Pasig launched in February. It's a river rehabilitation project of ABS-CBN Foundation, Inc. in partnership with the Department of Environment and Natural Resources through its Pasig River Rehabilitation Commission and local governments, non-government organizations and private corporations. It's a collaborative effort because the scope of the project is massive—it involves 47 tributaries of the Pasig.

The plan's first phase is the relocation of the houses and even factories along the tributaries and the river. The second phase will be solid waste management. To be set up in each tributary is a Materials Recovery Facility including equipment to transform organic waste into methane gas that will in turn power other machines that will convert organic waste to fertilizer. Equipment will also shred plastic and styrofoam and convert them into usable products like [illegible].

The third phase will use a Filipino invention, powder from banana plants, to transform sewage water to Class C water to bring back the freshwater life in the Pasig River in seven years.

Seems like a tall order but at least something is being done.

E-mail [illegible]

LIFESTYLE Food





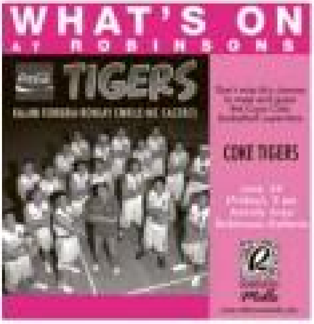
RUBY GAN

FOOD PROFILE

'I can eat tofu every day'

This week, Ruby Gan shares her food secrets—from what you'll find in her kitchen to her restaurant favorites





By Pam Pastor

RUBY GAN is a very busy woman.

But this does not mean she is too busy to enjoy one of her life's passions—food.

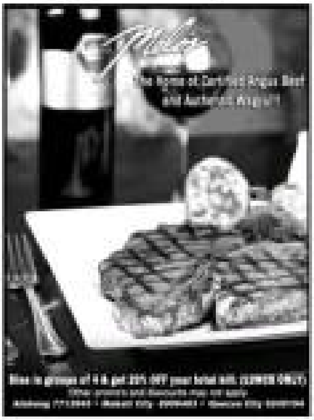
Food confessions

Describe yourself as an eater.

I am adventurous when it comes to food. I like to try different cuisines and sources.

Unforgettable meal:

TURN TO D4







GARFIELD — By Jim Davis



A. LIPIN



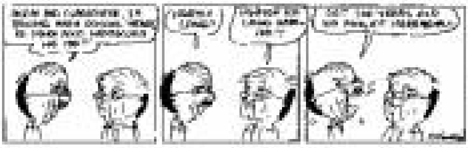
PUGAD BABOY



DICK TRACY



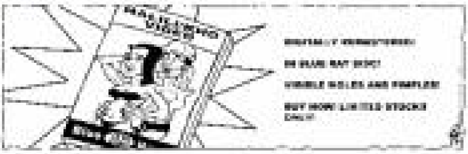
LOVESHOTS



JAMES BOND



DIVINE COMEDY



BABY BLUES



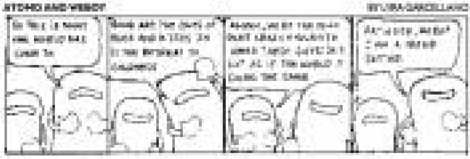
TULDOK



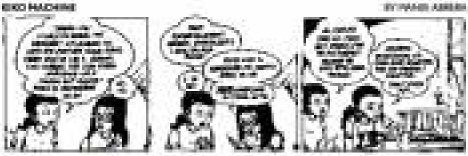
BEN



ATOMO AND WENDY



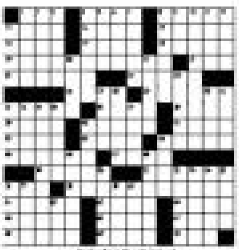
EGO MACHINE

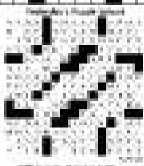


HOROSCOPE

By Francis Drake

CROSSWORD PUZZLE





CONCEPTIS SU DOKU

Conceptis Sudoku

3				5				
	4				9	3	1	
		9			2		8	
						2	3	
9								1
	6	5						
	8		6			4		
	5	7	8				9	
				3				5

HOW TO PLAY SU DOKU

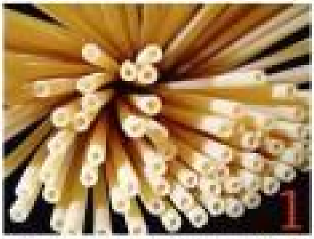
Fill the grid so that every column, every row and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1 to 9.

Answer to previous puzzle

4	8	2	6	3	1	9	7	5
7	6	3	9	5	8	4	1	2
5	9	1	7	4	2	3	8	6
3	4	9	2	8	6	7	5	1
8	1	5	3	9	7	6	2	4
6	2	7	5	1	4	8	9	3
9	5	4	8	2	3	1	6	7
2	3	6	1	7	9	5	4	8
1	7	8	4	6	5	2	3	9

Prawn Bucatini

Uncomplicated, it's 'one of the most celebrated dishes in Italian cuisine'



COOK bucatini according to package directions or until al dente. Set aside.

STEP BY STEP

Text by Vangie Baga-Reyes
Photos by Romy Homillada

TIRED OF SPAGHETTI? TRY bucatini pasta.

Bucatini is a thick strand spaghetti-like pasta with hollow space running through the center. The name comes from buco, meaning "hole" in Italian, while buco means "pierced." Bucatini originated in central Italy but became popular in Rome.

"While at first glance it might look like thick spaghetti, bucatini pasta is a very unique noodle because the hollow center of the pasta allows the sauce to seep in generously, therefore providing a more flavorful bite and taste," says Albert Alavera, managing director of Bar & Go (835-5993 and 835-5260), a casual European restaurant located at 2/L, New Arbiter Bldg., JM Magsaysay, Mandaluyong.

Bucatini is best prepared with a rich, heavy cream sauce, such as this recipe called Prawn Bucatini. It's a filling quick meal or lunch, combining the flavor of three cheeses (parmesan, mozzarella and cheddar) in the sauce, enhanced with fresh basil and celery.

Normally, tomato sauce is added to the mixture, but Alavera prefers to use Italian pomodoro sauce for a more savory finish.

"Prawn Bucatini is one of the most celebrated dishes in Italian cuisine. It's an uncomplicated dish that offers maximum flavor," says Alavera.

To make pomodoro sauce, simply heat 1 tbsp olive oil in a pan, sauté 1 tbsp minced garlic until brown, pour ¼ c red wine and reduce mixture by half. Add 500 g pureed peeled tomatoes and boil for five minutes. Season with salt and pepper and fresh basil.

Bucatini pasta is available in major supermarkets.





2 TO MAKE prawn cream sauce: Heat oil in a saucepan. Add garlic and cook until light brown. Add the shrimps and cook until they turn pink. Add bell peppers and celery. Cook until tender.



7 PREPARE extra pomodoro sauce on a platter. Slice baked bucatini into serving portions. Place on top of the plate. Serve hot with extra prawn cream sauce and parsley on top.



3 POUR tomato or pomodoro sauce, cooking cream, basil and season with salt and pepper. Allow to boil for two minutes, then simmer for another three minutes.

Ingredients:
Bucatini pasta
1 tbsp olive oil
1 tbsp minced garlic
150 g shrimp, peeled, cubed
100 g green bell pepper, cubed
100 g red bell pepper, cubed
100 g celery, cubed
1 tsp salt and pepper
2 c tomato sauce or pomodoro sauce
¼ c cooking cream
15 g fresh basil, julienned
1 tbsp parmesan cheese, shredded
50 g combination of cheddar and mozzarella cheeses
Parsley

For suggestions, e-mail the author at vbreyes@inquirer.com.ph.



ADD bucatini pasta into the pan. Add the cheeses: parmesan, mozzarella and cheddar. Mix well.



TRANSFER pasta into a baking pan. Sprinkle with cheddar and mozzarella cheeses.



BAKE for eight minutes at 220°F or until cheese melts.

'Bulalo' one day, linguini the next

THE QUIET DINER
RESTOS AT A GLANCE

LAST WEEK, WE THOUGHT we'd venture south to renew our ties with the food we grew up with. And what better place to do this than at a diner fabled for its bulalo?

Two days later, on another food foray, we discovered a new diner's brunch in a fast-evolving community. Two different culinary ventures, each satisfactory.

Bose and Grace, Lot 5, Block 27, Barangay Don Jose, Sta. Rosa Estate, Sta. Rosa City, Laguna. Tels (049) 541-1452.

For years now, Bose and Grace has served memories going south and south with newly cooked, well-prepared comfort food. Initially operating along the Calamba, Santo Tomas highway, the resto has set up branches in many neighboring towns. The one we visited is in Sta. Rosa. This chain fills the cravings for traditional Filipino dishes.

Dining area: Always crowded with hungry motorists. Spacious and comfortable. We'll call their tables and chairs nonsense size, meaning they are sturdy for real eating with plates; no need to worry about leaning them up. Natural sunlight brightens up the space.

Staff: Courteous and helpful.

Service: Quick, no-frills, more like eating in a newer space.

Suggested menu: Order the specialty, bulalo, either plain or with vegetables (pechay, bancalay). There's a P30 difference in price. The cafeteria-style display of food covers a wide area, and it carries nearly all the staples—Crispy Pata, Fried Chicken, Laing, Tinola, Menudo, Pinakbet, Leche Flan.

Ube and Halo-halo are served as desserts. Linger around if you are in the mood, go to the smaller building beside the resto and buy your pasalubong like pastillas, espasol and more.

Usual service charges are collected. Cards are honored with discounts.

Rating -

Cendi's Pastry and Restaurant, Evozone, Nuvali, Sta. Rosa, Laguna.

Nuvali is one of the latest by Ayala Land Development, stretching over a vast land that has an eco-friendly design.

Cendi's is in the square, away from the residential area, by the lake. It is the first eatery to open there, perhaps the only full-service restaurant in the complex at this time.

Dining area: The building has two floors, each done in the colors of the chain—chrysanthemum yellow and verdant green. On the second level are cubicles that could seat six adults, as well as a big function room for large gatherings.

Staff: Because it is the only dining place open, the tables get as much as four turnovers at lunch time, but the staff seem to be coping. Once seated, you need to ask for the menu. They are quick to take orders, are courteous and look neat in their olive green and yellow uniforms.

Service: Can still be improved, we are confident it will.

Suggested menu: If you are a regular Cendi's habitué, maybe you need not go through the menu. However, there is always excitement in choosing the right appetizer, salad and main course. Start with Caesar Salad or Smoked Salmon with Apple Vinaigrette. Follow with Pumpkin soup, then brace yourself for the main courses such as Linguini in Pesto Sauce, Pasta Allegra, Beef Teppanyaki with Japanese Rice, Pasta de Lengua with Paella Rice or Baked Salmon with Paella Rice.

Servings are just right. You'd so can't pass up dessert, which come in generous servings and are truly yummy. Have an Oreo Cheesecake with a big chunk of the cookie inside, Turtle Pie or Tiramisu. Punctuate the meal with Mocha Frappe in a tall, thin glass. Super!

Service and government taxes are added to the bill. Credit cards are honored.

Rating -

RATING INDEX
Poor
Good
Excellent

'I can eat tofu...'

From page D5

The last time we were at Antonio's in Tagaytay where I got to try almost everything on their menu including foie gras and steak tartare with lots of spices.

One food I can eat every day for the rest of my life:

Tofu

One food I can never eat:

Rabbit meat because rabbits are so cute.

One food I wish they'd bring back:

Magnolia's Walky for Cream Sandwich (guilty pleasure)

Giving in to my late-night cravings:

Favorite midnight snack:

McDonald's Hot Fudge Sundae and French Fries or my current favorite—Mary's Vegetarian Chicharon

Kitchen raid

Favorite...

Bread: Multi-grain

Cheese: Gruyere, Gouda, Feta

Bacon: I don't eat bacon.

Hotdog/sausage: Pampanga sausage

Ham: I don't eat ham either.

Fruit: Seedless grapes.

Cereal: Banana crunch and walnut cereal, toffee and caramel crunch cereal

Chips: Mary's Vegetarian Chicharon in Salt & Vinegar flavor

Popcorn: Any buttered popcorn, Chiman's White Cheddar Popcorn

Nuts: Walnuts, almonds

Candy: Sour candies

Chocolate: Dark chocolate Raisinets

Cake: Mom's classic cake

Ice cream: Selecta's Rocky Road [illegible]

Wine: Red. I love champagne, too!

Beer: Corona

Milk: Greenfields Full Cream Milk, Alaska Skim Skim Milk

Juice: Freshly squeezed orange juice

Catsup: I hardly use catsup.

Mayo: Not the I like mayo.

Butter: Nestle Gold Lite, [illegible] Lite, President Lite

Resto faves

Soup: Minestrone, clear broth, mushroom soup, Double-Boiled Soup from Jasmine Restaurant at the Renaissance Hotel and Shang Palace in Shangri-La Hotel, Makati

Salad: Josh's Simple Salad combined with any of the following—avocado, asparagus, apples, walnuts, shiitake mushrooms, prawns, pine nuts with olive oil, lemon juice or vinaigrette as dressing

Pasta/noodles: Simple pasta with fresh tomato, basil and fresh mozzarella or garlic and grated parmesan cheese; Myron's Red Curry Soft Shell Crab on Linguini Pasta; Myron's Lamb Rigatoni, Chef's Classics Pomodoro

Fried chicken: Jollibee, Savory, Popeye's Fried Chicken

Pizza: Thin-crust garlic-and-cheese or four-cheese pizza

Steak: Antonio's, medium well; Elbert's, medium well; I would occasionally crave for Jollibee's Burger Steak, too!

Burger: McDonald's and Wendy's cheeseburger, Myron's Black-and-Blue Burger. I also like Elbert's Cheesesteak Hoagie Sandwich

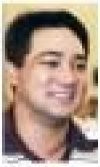
Dessert: McDonald's Hot Fudge Sundae, People's Palace's Mango and Sticky Rice, Myron's Bread Pudding, Lesar's Cream Pie Pie, Lesar's Strawberry Dessert

Other favorites: Arabelle's Thai Halo-Halo, Teddy's Sausage Roll, Krispy Kreme's Kafe Kreme, Cibo's Gondoloni Sandwich, Lesar's Lamb Pot Pie, Pepper Lunch's Curry Pepper Rice and Josiah's Shake in Panama





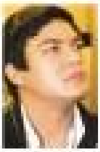
Entertainment



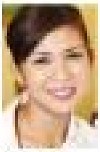
ANJO looking at 'Bulaga' group.



GOMA, wife Lucy are playing it by ear.



JOHAN wants to be a manager now.



GELLI may join Backroom.

'Orphaned' stars plan the future

THE 13 ARTISTS MANAGED BY DOUGLAS Quijano, who died on June 15, are still in the process of picking a new handler, according to actor Richard Gomez, one of the newly "orphaned" stars.

No one for Janice

Wait and see

Another lasting relationship

BACK STORY



Lea Salonga

I FIRST CAME TO KNOW OF AVON at age 7, during my stage debut in "The King and I." Along with the musical's opulent costumes, crowns and gold jewelry for every cast member, there was makeup—lots and lots of it.

There were cakes of foundation made for every skin tone; smaller cakes of black eyeliner; false eyelashes held to the eyelids with special adhesive; iridescent blues and greens; perfect blushes of peach and pink; and bagfuls of lipstick and gloss.

Backstage, in the large ensemble dressing room on the 3rd floor of the CCP Main Theater, the makeup artists were ready and waiting, each one at her own station. The actors lined up behind a makeup chair, waiting to get powdered.

I remember sitting in the chair already in costume. The cool feeling of the foundation swept on my face by a clean sponge, the smooth sponge to keep from crying as the eyeliner was applied, the tickle of the blush brush on my cheeks, and finally a generous helping of strawberry lip gloss to finish things off. Actually, I was responsible for the gloss. I liked having it on thick. Hey, I was a kid, and it was fun.

Staple in my kit

Avon makeup remained a staple in my kit for many productions since then, including "Annie," "The Sound of Music," and even "Miss Saigon." My regular Avon lady, Helen Calimbo, came over to my house before I headed off to London. I ordered several cakes of foundation as well as plenty of sponges from her (I needed to be careful with what I put on my face; I was prone to allergies), enough to last me however long I would stay. When I headed to New York, I placed yet another order. And whenever I would run out, I'd give her a call.

> Backstage, makeup artists were ready and waiting, each one at her station

Many years later, my relationship with Avon went beyond just ordering my personal supply. In the mid-2000s I became ambassador for Avon Color, proudly talking about the makeup I had used and loved when I was a little girl in Repertory Philippines, and was still using in the West End and on Broadway.

Renewed relationship

And now, my relationship with Avon is renewed. I've moved from makeup to skin care, from Avon Color to Avon Anew Rejuvenate.

Anew Rejuvenate is Avon's anti-aging product line. Using Anew is comparable to a visit to a world-class (read: expensive) spa, without the time spent to travel to get there, and the prohibitive cost. And because it doesn't take a lot of time to take care of your skin, you free up your calendar for the more important things in life, in my case, time with my husband, my friends and my little girl.

All the products in the Anew Rejuvenate line—Day Cream, Night Cream, Mineral Toner, 2-in-1 Cleanser and Hydrorenewing Concentrate—help smooth fine lines and wrinkles, improve skin texture and shrink pores. If you're a woman more than 25 years old and would like to maintain your youthful appearance or just improve the condition of your skin, it wouldn't hurt to try this line.

At the press launch of the products on Tuesday, I was asked myriad questions regarding my being a part of the Avon family and how wonderful it feels to be endorsing a great product line.

Defining true beauty

While being interviewed by members of the press, I thought about what true beauty means—to me, anyway:

- Being comfortable in your own skin, able to face the world without a mask.
- Accepting one's flaws, and seeing them as marks of beauty.
- Growing even more beautiful as the years pass, with grace.
- Looking at life, work and love with a sense of humor.
- Finding happiness, in every sense of the word.
- Looking into the mirror, and liking what you see.
- Realizing the power in one's body, mind and spirit.

I'm truly blessed with life the way it's been going, and I can't ask for anything more, except maybe to keep singing all the end of my days. Yeah, singing makes me feel darn beautiful, too!

Did You Know...

'Bandstand' eliminations

THE FIRST ROUND OF ELIMINATIONS for group 2 of 15 semifinalist groups in the music competition "Bandstand" is on June 28 at the Manila Ocean Park, near the Quirino Grandstand in Manila. Special guest performer is MYMP. At stake is P100,000 in cash, a P100,000 contract to perform at Manila Ocean Park, and a record deal with Sony Music.



FARRAH Fawcett and Ryan O'Neal photographed with their son Redmond in 1995 at the Hollywood Walk of Fame.

Farrah fighting for life, agrees to marry Ryan

LOS ANGELES—RYAN O'NEAL is set to marry cancer-stricken Farrah Fawcett and has revealed that his long-time love is "fighting for her life," ABC News reported Monday.

O'Neal, 68, told ABC television's Barbara Walters in an interview due to air later this week that "Charlie's Angels" star Fawcett, who has been battling anal cancer for three years, had agreed to marry him.

"I've asked her to marry me, again, and she's agreed," an emotional O'Neal told Walters in excerpts of the interview aired on ABC News' website. Fawcett, O'Neal said, was "fighting for her life."

On and off

O'Neal and Fawcett, 62, have been romantically involved off and on since 1982. The couple have a son. "I used to ask her to marry me all the time," O'Neal said in the ABC interview. "But it just got to be a joke."

O'Neal has been a constant presence at Fawcett's side since news of her illness broke. Last month the actor told People magazine that Fawcett's cancer had spread to her liver and that her treatment had effectively ended.

"It's a love story. I just don't know how to play this one. I won't know this world without her," O'Neal said. "Cancer is so insidious and enemy." AFP

Pinoy parasitic twin in Discovery special

IS THERE HOPE FOR THIS MAN TO LIVE a normal life?

Rudy Santos, 55, is a medical phenomenon. With four arms and three legs, he has one of the rarest conditions known to man—a parasitic twin.

His twin also has an undeveloped head that protrudes out of Rudy's torso.

Rudy has lived all his life with the inconvenience of his abnormal appendages, accepting his condition without question. Recently, a famous Filipino surgeon offered him hope: it may be possible to separate him from his twin.

Is Rudy a suitable candidate for the surgery?



RUDY Santos

"Octoman" premieres on Discovery Channel, Sunday, July 5, 9 p.m. in the Philippines. Encores on Monday, July 6 at 12 midnight, 8 a.m. and 2 p.m.; Tuesday, July 7 at 7 p.m., and Sunday, July 12 at 4 a.m. and 8 a.m.

Rudy was known as "Octoman" in freak shows in the 1970s and 1980s. Hard times forced him into seclusion, and he has lived in poverty for over 10 years. But he remains a legend in the local carnival circuit.

Now medical science has knocked on his door. Rudy, the oldest parasitic twin in the world, is followed by cameras on an emotional journey as he meets the country's foremost authority on conjoined twin separation, Dr. Vicente Gomez.

Rudy undergoes a series of examinations by Gomez and a team of medical experts to find out how his twin is formed, and exactly what parts it has—maybe a spine or some organs? The tests will also determine if surgery is possible for him at this late age.

While waiting for the results, Rudy returns to his family home, where his 11 brothers and sisters are waiting and praying for him.